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LABOR MINISTER WARNS WORKERS AGAINST OPENING DOORS TO COUP

PY081954 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1712 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY

[Text] La Paz, 8 Jan (LATIN)--Labor and Union Affairs Minister Oscar Garcia Suarez warned today that "dangers of a violent and untimely interruption of the democratic process have not disappeared. On the contrary, they seem to become greater each day." Minister Garcia published an "exhortation" to the Bolivian working class in the morning papers warning them that "we are on the brink of the abyss" and referring to persistent rumors of plans aimed at interrupting the return to democracy in Bolivia.

The last few days have been characterized by several strike movements which have even compelled some employers to threaten the government with handing over their factories to state administration. The government and President Lidia Gueiler herself have multiplied their efforts to seek a solution to the labor demands and to ward off strike threats in various sectors.

In his message to the workers today, the labor minister urged them to abide by the general labor law in their salary demands and "not to play along with antidemocratic coup plans." He called the numerous strike movements and threats "a practice which has become virtually generalized" and which "conspires against both national economy and political stability."

Minister Garcia placed before the workers the choice of "preferring to negotiate your union demands while enjoying full political rights or seeing those demands rejected under a smothering dictatorship." He warned the workers that unless they respect the laws in force, "you will be opening the doors to a coup ever wider." He said: "We are on the brink of the abyss. Let us stop before we reach the point of no return. This can only be done if the large majority of union leaders and bases decide to do so with the understanding that the preservation of the democratic regime coincides with the defense of your class interests."

At the same time, a high-level commission formed by several ministries was trying today to prevent an announced blockade of highways and roads in the northern region of Santa Cruz Department, 900 km southeast of this capital.

CENTRAL BANK REPORTS FOREIGN DEBT EXCEEDS $2 BILLION

PY081643 Paris AFP in Spanish 2225 GMT 7 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 7 Jan (AFP)- Bolivia had closed the year 1979 with a meager increase of 2.1 percent in its gross domestic product, a deficit of $188 million in its balance of payments and a public foreign debt exceeding $2 billion. This report was released by Milton Paz, general manager of the Bolivian Central Bank.

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS OFFICE APPOINTMENT--Col (Nestor Delfin Valdivieso) was sworn in by Interior Minister Jorge Celum Vaca Diez as director of the national directorate for the control of dangerous substances. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY]

PRESIDENT CONFIRMS TRIPS TO PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA, CHILE

PY041242 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Following the course outlined for Brazilian diplomacy in 1980, Figueiredo has confirmed that he will visit several Latin American countries in 1980. He will visit Paraguay on 9, 10 and 11 April. A month later he will go to Argentina on 13, 14 and 15 May. He will make still another trip at the beginning of the second half of the year, this time to Chile. As for the reported trip to Ecuador, both Itamaraty and the president have indicated that there is nothing certain so far, although they did not deny that an invitation to visit that country has been issued. Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas said it is still too early to discuss the agenda of the presidential trips, but he did say that during his meeting with Argentine Government officials, Figueiredo could discuss the possibility of exchanging expertise in the field of nuclear technology. The energy problem will also be discussed with Paraguay. However, in this case it will concern the power generated by Itaipu, which is being built jointly by the two countries, in terms of prices and conditions of supply.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT LIMA FOR ANDEAN PACT TALKS

PY051855 Paris AFP in Spanish 1554 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 5 Jan (AFP)--Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro will travel to Lima next 15 January where he will attend the meeting of the Andean Pact Foreign Ministers Council, it was reported here today. The information was given by a spokesman of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry who said that Saraiva Guerreiro will be the first foreign minister to hold talks with the Andean Pact Foreign Ministers Council, a body created a few months ago.

COMMENTATOR STRESSES UN 'POWERLESSNESS' AGAINST SOVIET UNION

PY081215 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY

[Newton Carlos Commentary]

[Text] In spite of the general condemnation, the United Nations, as expected, will not be able to take any action against the Soviet Union. It can ask the Soviet Union to immediately withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, but the Soviet Union has the right of veto in the UN Security Council. It has the same right as the other four permanent members of the UN Security Council to veto any UN resolution. The other four members are the United States, Great Britain, France and China.

As expected, the United Nations is showing its ineffectiveness once again in the face of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. Aware of the UN's powerlessness, the United States is now seeking other forms of pressure against the Soviet Union. One of them is the boycott against the sale of food, especially wheat, and of technology. The EEC countries have agreed to attend the meeting called for by the United States. The meeting is to take place on Friday, but agreement to attend does not mean, for the time being, adherence to a possible suspension of grain sales.

Everything indicates that a preliminary decision will be made at the meeting on Friday, a decision partially favorable to the United States: not an immediate suspension of wheat sales to the Soviet Union, but a threat to suspend sales in case the Soviet Union does not withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

GOVERNMENT APPLAUDS MEXICO'S ELECTION TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL

PA081519 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0122 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Jan (EFE)--Colombia applauded tonight the election of Mexico as a UN Security Council member in today's General Assembly ballot. Mexico received 143 votes, Cuba 3, with 8 abstentions.

Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas commented favorably on the fact that "a friendly country" had been elected, respecting the Latin American hegemony that has prevailed for years. "Colombia supports with dignity any Latin American country chosen," the minister said. Colombia and Cuba had disputed the seat, but neither country obtained the required majority in 154 ballots held since last year. In concluding, Uribe Vargas affirmed that his country never had a closed position with regard to that dispute.

VENEZUELA ORDERS CLOSING OF FOUR CONSULATES

PA082027 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The decision of President Luis Herrera Campins' government to order the closing of four general consulates which formerly handled many licenses and other paperwork, has been received here with great surprise. The Venezuelan Government's decision affects the consulates of Barranquilla, Valledupar, Bucaramanga and Cali. According to official information supplied by the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry, the measure is due mostly to a reorganization of the Venezuelan consular service in Colombia.

CONSERVATIVE LEADER MURDERED IN TRUJILLO

PA090319 Paris AFP in Spanish 2226 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jan (AFP)--Conservative leader Leonardo Jaramillo and two other persons were shot to death today by unknown persons in Trujillo, in the western part of Colombia. The local authorities immediately decreed a curfew and the dry law in the area, it was officially reported here. Jaramillo, a well-known rancher, had been the target of three attempts in past months during which he was wounded once.

ARMY TROOPS ARREST WELL-KNOWN FARC LEADER

PA082244 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0128 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Jan (EFE)--The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) last week suffered a severe blow with the arrest of one of its best-known leaders, Luis Alberto Cortes, by army troops. According to an army communique released today in Bogota, the rebel leader was arrested following a clash with regular troops in the Barranca Bermeja area.

Luis Alberto Cortes was considered the chief of the FARC's fifth front which for several years has clashed with army and police forces in the northwest part of Colombia. FARC, of Marxist tendency and active in rural areas, along with the M-19 urban movement, has been one of the most active guerrilla groups in the country since the sixties.

FOREIGN MINISTER, USSR ENVOY COMMENT ON POSSIBLE COLD WAR

PA051652 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Alfredo Pareja Diezcanseco believes that the world is moving back to the notorious cold war that for decades characterized relations between the greatest powers: the Soviet Union and the United States.. Pareja comments on the recent events in Afghanistan that have caused a freezing in the discussion of the arms limitation treaty between the Soviets and the North Americans: [Begin recording] My opinion in this regard is that this is truly a dangerous moment. I don't believe there is a danger of a world war, but there could be a return to the cold war, and this would be regrettable for the people of the Third World, for small countries such as ours. It will be the big powers which will decide what will happen. Unfortunately, we are only observers and lovers of world peace. [end recording]

Soviet Ambassador German Shlyapnikov, however, has dismissed the idea of giving too much importance to the Afghanistan crisis: [Begin recording] I want to say that we, the representatives of the Soviet Union, are always optimistic, and this includes me, personally. I think that some recent events [words indistinct] by some interested party. So I would not say that the world is on the brink of an international catastrophe that could be fatal for all of us.

Of course there are difficult conflicts. There are difficult situations, but this should not provoke panic among the people, among ourselves. This should rather serve to produce a mobilization of people of good will to struggle more actively for world peace, disarmament and detente.

[Unidentified speaker] Mr Ambassador, [words indistinct] the cold war so much is talked about?

[Shlyapnikov] I would not say that there is any cold war. Despite well-known events in the world, I would not say that a cold war is being waged. There are international difficulties. There are, I would say, opposing positions between some countries. We do not think this represents a return to the cold war. Cold wars are pregnant with hot arms and we must avoid them. The world has already experienced the cold war. Why repeat it? [end recording]

NEW OIL FINDS, NEW FUEL PRICES ANNOUNCED

PA082007 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] The general manager of the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE) has officially delivered to Jose Corsino Cardenas, minister of natural resources and energy, the new well [as heard] confirming the existence of commercially exploitable oil in the Cuyabeno field. The Cuyabeno-2 well produced 4,083 barrels a day of crude oil of 25 to 28 degrees API. The well was drilled by CEPE in the country's northwest, approximately 20 km from the Colombian border. The production tests were concluded a few days ago.

Corsino announced that new prices have been established for diesel and fuel oil for national flag vessels serving international routes. He said that the prices were established in a ministerial resolution and that they are adjustable every 6 months pursuant to a permanent provision in Article 73 of the law on hydrocarbons currently in force.

The price per barrel of diesel oil and fuel oil for the first semester will be 214,50 and 194.04 sucres, respectively. During the second semester the price of diesel oil will be 414.20 sucres and that of fuel oil 298.20 sucres a barrel. The respective taxes must be added to these prices. The additional revenues to be obtained from this source have been estimated at 254 million sucres.

AMBASSADOR TO CUBA RETURNS, MAKES STATEMENT

PA082136 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Arnoldo Peroza report]

[Excerpt] Venezuelan Ambassador to Cuba Cesar Rondon Lovera has been meeting at Casa Amarilla with Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano since 0900. On arrival at the Foreign Ministry offices, Rondon said that his return to Caracas is completely routine within the framework of diplomatic relations between two nations. He said that like any other country, Venezuela has the right to handle its foreign policy to suit its own interests. Rondon reiterated that Venezuela respects the right of asylum and noted that no situation has arisen between Cuba and Venezuela other than their willingness to overcome any incident. Logically, this is based on the long tradition of friendship between the Cuban and Venezuelan peoples.

ROTTERDAM REPORTS VAN DER KLAAUW VISIT, ANTILLES ACCORD

LD081603 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 5 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Netherlands and Venezuela in Agreement Over Antilles"]

[Excerpts] Caracas, 5 January--"Relations with the Antilles pose no problem for Venezuela." This statement was made by Foreign Minister Van der Klaauw who is at present visiting several Latin American countries and the Antilles, after talks with his Venezuelan counterpart Zambrano in Caracas.

The talks, which dealt mainly with developments in the Caribbean region, revealed that Venezuela is worried about Cuba's influence in this part of the world, which takes the form of sending doctors and teachers to small island states struggling with great social problems or which are barely economically viable despite their political independence. For this reason Venezuela is strongly opposed to Aruba breaking with the rest of the Antilles and hence to the creation of a small independent island state just off its coast. In talks with his Venezuelan counterpart Van der Klaauw stressed the unity of the Antilles and their viability should they become independent. "At present," the minister said, "Venezuela is not worried about the future of the Antilles."

In response to a Venezuelan plea for the Netherlands to play a more active role in the Caribbean region, Van der Klaauw promised that the Netherlands will work within the European Community for closer ties between the EC and the Andean Pact. In this treaty organization, comprising Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, Venezuela sees itself as a link between the states of mainland Latin America and the Caribbean region. It regards this pact principally as an economic cooperation union but feels responsible for political stability in the Caribbean region. Asked whether Venezuela would also be prepared to give economic aid to the Antilles, Van der Klaauw explained that preparatory talks are being held about refining capacities in the Antilles. Venezuelan oil companies want to participate in Shell's Antilles company. The Antilles Government also wants to participate in it.

UN REPRESENTATIVE DENOUNCES SOVIET AGGRESSION

PA090004 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Statement by Jorge Illueca, Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations, on 8 January by telephone from New York--recorded]

[Text] Panama was one of the 57 countries, which included all the Latin American countries, which prompted the UN General Assembly in 1965 to approve the declaration of nonintervention. It therefore stands to reason that Panama signed the letter dated 3 January 1980 addressed to the president of the UN Security Council by 52 member countries requesting an urgent meeting of the Security Council to analyze the situation created in Afghanistan and its consequences for international peace and security.

The news of the invasion of Afghanistan by overwhelming specialized Soviet troops, whose offensive power is beyond that of the occupied territory, was received with sadness and deep concern not only by Panama but also by the rest of the Latin American continent.

The state of consternation reached its height when it was learned that the troops, which claimed to have come in defense of Afghanistan, had served to overthrow the Afghan Government, the head of state had been executed and that that country's territorial integrity has now been completely violated, its army disarmed and that the Soviet occupation troops are at this moment carrying out combat operations and using their arms against dissident sectors of the Afghan population, with the deplorable bloodshed which human conscience can only repudiate and disapprove.

During the debate at the Security Council, it was said that the overwhelming presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan is legitimate by virtue of the existing friendship, good-neighborly and cooperation treaty signed in Moscow by leaders of the two countries on 5 December 1978.

They say that on the basis of this agreement Soviet military aid was requested by the Government of Afghanistan presided over by Hafizollah Amin, who, as we know, was executed during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. This weak excuse is absolutely unacceptable, not only because it is unreasonable and illogical, but because the international community has not and will not concede legal validity to interventionist clauses or the authorization of arbitrary use of armed forces in the territory of another country included or established in treaties or international agreements by any of the members of the United Nations, after the declaration was approved. The letter rejects intervention and use of force in international relations. That is why this treaty is not valid and is absolutely null, as is any other treaty with similar stipulations.

I wish to add that in the opinion of my country, this treaty contravenes the declaration. To accept the validity of the treaty between Moscow and Kabul would be equivalent to applauding the illegitimate use of force which is contrary to what is established in Paragraph 4 of Article 2 of the declaration which establishes that UN members in their international relations will abstain from resorting to the threat or the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan dismays and worries the world. The political cost to the Soviet Government and people for this action cannot be estimated. The Soviet action not only violates the UN declaration on nonintervention, but also the UN Charter. Such action openly contradicts the declaration on the concession of independence to colonial countries contained in Resolution 714, XV of December 1960.

In the same way the Soviet action violates the many statements approved at nonalined countries summit conferences, especially those issued in Colombo and Havana. The Soviet action also openly contradicts statements made by the heads of nonalined governments at the Havana conference on meddling and intervention in the internal affairs of states. On that occasion the conference reiterated the support of the nonalined countries to the principle of nonintervention and against meddling in the internal and foreign affairs of countries, which has been one of the basic principles of the nonalined movement. This summit conference stressed that the violation of this principle is aboslutely unacceptable, unjustified under any circumstances and incompatible with the obligations of the UN members by virtue of the UN Charter.

According to my government, in addition to upsetting legal order, the ill-advised Soviet decision has deranged international relations. The Soviet action has been a shock to the detente process on which much hope had been placed. What has become of the Helsinki Act of 1975 and the declaration of principles governing international relations among the member nations; in particular, the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries?

The USSR not only has dealt a death blow to detente but it has unnecessarily created a climate of war in the world which does not harmonize with the ideals of peace of the Soviet Revolution. The obvious consequence of this aggressive act has been to launch the world into an arms race. The efforts made toward disarmament are now lost on the unattainable horizon. It has also seriously disturbed the international economic goals of the Third World to obtain more just economic relations between developing and industrialized countries.

With the unjust occupation of Afghanistan, a nonalined country, by USSR, a superpower, a serious crisis has been created within the ranks of the nonalined movement. Countries which are traditionally friends will have to make decisions based on the principles and objectives of the nonalined movement or else cause a commotion which will not by any means have a pleasant consequence for the movement.

The USSR has created a crisis of confidence in the UN system and in every aspect of international relations. Do countries that are not superpowers have the right to see that the principles of self-determination, nonintervention in internal affairs, the nonuse of force in international relations, the inadmissibility of hegemonism and of territorial integrity are respected? The crisis of confidence is not only spiritual. It is a reality in which the people of Afghanistan are living and world peace has been altered. Resolutions to be taken in this respect cannot be lukewarm, ambiguous or imprecise. Let us recall Article 3, Resolution 3314, XXIX, which defines aggression as the use of one country's armed forces in another country even with the consent of the occupied state, violating conditions established in the agreement or the prolongation of its presence in that territory after the conditions of the agreement have been carried out.

It is obvious that the actions taken by the Soviet troops in occupying Afghanistan violated the friendly agreement which supposedly was invoked to carry out the aggression.

In conclusion, I wish to make a friendly appeal to the USSR to restore to the world the climate of peace we all hope for. It should, therefore, immediately withdraw all its troops from Afghanistan. The world's admiration for the Red Army rests on its glorious actions against Nazi fascism--for example: The Battle of Stalingrad--and not on the not-so-glorious invasion of Afghanistan.

CENTRAL AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING POSTPONED

PA081912 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The meeting of foreign ministers which was scheduled to have been held in San Jose has been postponed. In view of the request submitted by the Guatemalan Government, whose foreign minister would not be able to attend the meeting on 15, 16 and 17 January, the meeting of foreign ministers of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic has been postponed.

The new date of the meeting will be set after problems that have arisen recently in some countries of the isthmus are resolved, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has announced.

Guatemala could not attend the meeting and El Salvador has no foreign minister. Since Guatemala could not attend the meeting of foreign ministers in which the Central American Common Market and political actions to be followed by this group of countries in international forums were to have been discussed, the meeting had to be postponed. Also, the fact that El Salvador has no foreign minister in view of the problems that have arisen in that country made the situation worse and contributed to the cancellation of the meeting scheduled for next week.

In the past few days Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has contacted his colleagues who were invited to the meeting. Honduran Foreign Minister Eliseo Perez Cadalso agreed to postpone the meeting, as did Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto and Dominican Foreign Minister Ramon Jimenez. Fournier has to contact only Panamanian Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores, although it is taken for granted that the meeting will be held, possibly in early February.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT STUDIES EXPULSION OF SOVIET, CUBAN DIPLOMATS

PA082130 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] A cooling of relations with the USSR has been observed. The government is studying the expulsion of Cuban diplomats. There could be a break of relations with Cuba and the USSR.

The situation, resulting from the Atlantic banana workers strike and previous developments in the Limon general strike in the middle part of last year which prompted the expulsion of Soviet diplomats, could cause a cooling of relations with Cuba and the USSR.

The statement against the USSR by President Carazo on a radio and television relay last night has led to a cooling of relations between the two countries.

Government circles said this morning that the application of international treaties and conventions is being studied in what has been described as a new intervention by the Soviet Embassy in Costa Rica. Investigations carried out by the government indicate that Cuban consulate officials in our country are participating actively in the banana conflict. This had led to studying the possibility of ordering the expulsion of several Cuban officials pursuant to the Vienna convention. The evidence against the Cuban consular diplomats is obvious, which is why the government is handling the situation carefully.

Although it has not been confirmed, it is possible our country could break diplomatic relations with Cuba and the USSR. It has been learned that the government received many messages of support today for President Carazo's statement last night against the communists. A break of relations is something the government is considering very seriously, a government official states.

Further on Expulsion Plans

PA090241 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Cubans are involved in the strike movement. At least six Cubans may be expelled. The government is analyzing the situation concerning Cuba and the Soviet Union. The unclear situation of Cuban Consul General in Costa Rica Edelberto Diaz and the participation of several officials of that consulate in the Atlantic strike is being analyzed by the government. This could lead to the expulsion of several diplomats.

Government authorities have discovered that at least six Cuban officials have taken part in the strike movement in the Atlantic region. In view of the involvement, once again, of foreign officials in a Costa Rican labor movement, the government is studying the possibility of applying severe measures in accordance with international conventions. Their distributing propaganda and participation as agitators in the strike movement has forced the government to take strong measures against the Cubans, an official has commented.

At least six Cubans may be expelled. The situation of Consul General Edelberto Diaz, who replaced Juan Manuel Rivero who left the country after the August strike in Limon, is not clear. There is talk that at least six Cubans are participating in the banana strike. The government is studying the possibility of expelling those foreigners for interference in domestic affairs by applying the Vienna convention. Officially the Cuban consulate only has two officials duly accredited before our government.

The government is analyzing the situation which has emerged with Cuba and the Soviet Union. It is evident that there has been a cooling of Costa Rican relations with Cuba and the Soviet Union. This could lead to the explusion of several diplomats of those countries. According to government officials involved in foreign policy, the government is seriously considering the possibility of breaking relations with those two countries. The charges made by President Carazo last night have cooled those relations even more and the consultations among top government levels indicate that something important will occur.

CARAZO URGES PEOPLE TO MAKE 1980 YEAR OF AUSTERITY

PA050440 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0146 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[By Eduardo Castro]

[Text] San Jose, 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In his first message to the Costa Ricans in 1980, President Rodrigo Carazo Odio urged everyone to make 1980 a year of austerity in order to face national and international economic problems.

Carazo criticized the expenses incurred by certain sectors of the Costa Rican society that make large purchases of unnecessary items abroad. "The government is willing to implement customs and other necessary measures but the people must understand and cooperate for their own good," Carazo announced.

He also said that "it is necessary to make everybody aware of the situation because the fate of everybody is at stake. We must save dollars and gasoline. We must not purchase unnecessary items. We must all work and produce more for the benefit of our own family, the community and the country's present and future welfare."

After listing several measures aimed at facing foreign and domestic economic problems, Carazo urged the Costa Ricans "of good faith" to cooperate in these efforts "in order to counteract world inflation, fight against the fiscal deficit and save dollars in order to improve our balance of payments." He also made a "respectful appeal to the gentlemen of the opposition to work together with the government for the benefit of Costa Rica."

The president defended the policies adopted by his government in 1979, and criticized those adopted by previous administrations. He made a detailed explanation of the world's energy situation and reproached those who have not taken it seriously despite the extent of the crisis.

Carazo maintained that "the oil prices have seriously affected the growth of the world's economy and have switched the political balance in the world."

"The problem that hangs over mankind is so serious that it threatens to become a serious international conflict," he said.

He stressed that it is important to become aware of international problems, save on fuel, promote domestic savings and exports, obtain better access to international markets, struggle against protectionist barriers in industrialized countries and implement a domestic credit program which, without affecting production, will not produce inflationary pressures.

Carazo highlighted the economic achievements made by Costa Rica in 1979, emphasizing the low inflation rate which various international organizations have noted in Costa Rica. He added that the Costa Rican currency--the colon--was not devaluated despite unofficial reports which circulated in San Jose by the end of 1979.

"The country has shown that its economy is vigorous despite bad faith, party politics and the shallowness of many. Its production, investments and exports reflect encouraging signs despite the difficult world situation," Carazo said.

"The changes being experienced in the world economy and the constant increases in oil prices demand caution from the Costa Rican people and they must accept their share of the responsibility," the president stated.

We must be aware that world prices will continue to increase and that we must make maximum savings so that the country can import what it really needs--which is what it cannot produce--so that the process will not be stopped and the people's welfare will not be affected," he noted.

EL SALVADOR

LEFTISTS APPEAL FOR INSURRECTION, PROLONGED WAR

PA082040 Paris AFP in Spanish 1954 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jan (AFP)--The country's most numerous leftist organizations--the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (BPR), the 28 February Peoples Leagues (LP-28) and the United Popular Action Front (FAPU) today issued an appeal here for insurrection and a prolonged peoples war.

While unrest prevails among the people, who want to know who the three civilians appointed to the revolutionary government junta will be, the three groups announced that they will stage a demonstration against the government junta on 22 January. At present the junta is comprised of two military officers, Cols Arnoldo Majano and Jaime Abdul Gutierrez.

Meanwhile, the struggle between the leftist groups and the business sectors was intensified in the morning papers today.

The BPR and the National Salvadoran Teachers Association bought advertisements calling for insurrection and condemning the oligarchy, while the Industrial Sectors Association defended the business sector, pointing to communist infiltration in the government.

According to observers, the delay in announcing the names of the civilians who will join the government reveals the difficulties the armed forces have encountered in their search for support among the political groups that endorsed the 15 October military coup in the wake of the ministerial crisis of 2 January.

Certain differences also reportedly exist among the military regarding the emphasis and intensity that should be given to implementing the government program included in the proclamation released when President Carlos Humberto Romero was overthrown.

PDC DENIES BEING PRESSURE GROUP; NEW GOVERNMENT MEMBERS NAMED

PA081834 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0025 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[By Rosendo Majano]

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Christian Democratic Party (PDC) of El Salvador today denied that it is being used as an instrument of pressure of the United States or any other country to solve the political crisis in this Central American republic, as has been said abroad.

The party's leaders held a news conference this afternoon at which they said that the PDC is seeking Salvadoran solutions to the Salvadoran problems.

The PDC named Jose Antonio Morales Erlich, a lawyer, and Hector Dada Hirezi, an engineer and former foreign minister of the junta which took over on 15 October 1979, to form part of the revolutionary government junta.

It is almost sure they will replace Guillermo Manuel Ungo and Roman Mayorga Quiroz, who resigned last weekend as members of the Cabinet. In the meantime, at the presidential house they are looking for someone to take over the post left by Mario Antonio Andino, who resigned when the other Cabinet members and some public officials resigned.

ACAN-EFE has learned that the third civilian member of the junta is going to be an independent. The three civilians will join Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano and Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez in governing the country.

PDC leader Jose Napoleon Duarte told newsmen that the government platform submitted by his party to the armed forces defines the current political process as a people's movement seeking national development and its aim is to change the oligarchic structures of economic and social power.

In the economic and social realms, the PDC government platform proposes a profound and fast agrarian reform. The platform is of a national character, seeking the nationalization of the country's financial system and reforms to the labor law granting the peasants the right to organize. It propounds an accelerated industrial program supported and promoted by local industrialists' capital.

On military matters, the PDC says the new revolutionary government junta must have effective legal power corresponding to the rank of presidency of the republic. It also seeks the establishment of systems of a social order by a political-military team and the integration of a democratization process of the security corps and the respect for human and political rights.

After a general debate, the PDC's national convention agreed to form part of the government if the following conditions are met: A public statement by the armed forces in which it clearly and distinctly defines the social, economic and political policy to be followed by the next government according to the PDC's government platform; and a constructive dialog with all people's organizations. The PDC also says that the composition of the government should be pluralist.

The PDC leaders said they did not ask for Andino's resignation, as was reported here. His resignation was requested by the other members of the Cabinet who resigned and who never explained their reasons.

The PDC said that Andino quit the government of his own will to give the armed forces the freedom to reorganize the government.

Finally, the PDC said that the possibilities of a coup d'etat in El Salvador do exist from the extreme right but not from the left.

Information Secretary Named

PA082120 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1450 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Sigrido Munes, public relations agent, has been appointed secretary of information for the presidency by the revolutionary government junta. Munes has been connected for many years with information media activities and will replace Maj Alvaro Salazar Brenes, who has been appointed consul general in New York.

The Secretariat of Information is the official organization charged with issuing government announcements and handling government propaganda.

BPR, LP-28 SPOKESWOMEN REJECT ALLIANCE WITH PDC

PA090016 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Report by Radio YSKL in San Salvador to the listeners of the Voice of Nicaragua--presumably live]

[Excerpt] Members of the 28 February People's Leagues [LP-28] and the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc [BPR] have been interviewed. They are Ana Maria Gomez and Marisol Galindo, leaders of the two political groups and persons in charge of the propaganda and publicity commissions of their respective organizations. In the interview they discussed the statement by Jose Napoleon Duarte in which he said the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] was already holding talks with the popular organizations to present a single front in the government leadership through the PDC which will join the revolutionary government junta.

The BPR and LP-28 spokeswomen said the support requested by Duarte is totally impossible because of ideological principles preventing alliances with the PDC. However, they urged the honest PDC members who still remain in the organization to withdraw from the dialog with the revolutionary junta.

NICARAGUA

SANDINIST MILITARY UPRISING IN BOACO THWARTED

PA082104 Paris AFP in Spanish 2025 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 8 Jan (AFP)--An attempted rebellion at the military garrison in Boaco, 100 km northeast of Managua, was put down peacefully today, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge reported here today.

The local Sandinist commander, whose name was not released, and his two main aides were ordered to Managua for military discipline, Minister Borge added.

According to the minister, the rebels were ordered to Managua over the nation's radio stations since it was impossible to communicate by telephone. It is rumored here that the three militarymen have already arrived in the capital and are under arrest.

Borge explained that the uprising occurred when the military chief of Boaco refused to abide by orders of the deputy minister of defense, Comdr Eden Pastora, to release a prisoner.

The prisoner, who has a record as a Somozist, had collaborated with the Sandinist guerrillas in the last phase and, therefore, his release was ordered.

The Sandinist chiefs of Boaco used military force to seize a local radio station to broadcast a statement against Vice Minister Pastora, whom they termed bourgeois. They said they had decided to countermand his orders.

Pastora gained a name in August 1978 when he headed a spectacular assault on the Government Palace where he held over 3,000 persons hostage, including high-ranking officials of the Somoza government. Since then Pastora has been popularly known as Commander Cero.

Commenting on the incident, Minister Borge said 6 months after the revolutionary victory there are still some local commanders who want to rule by themselves in cities in the nation's interior.

Minister of Defense Humberto Ortega announced there will be a reorganization of the military commands in the provinces, which will be announced within a few hours.

Borge on Uprising

PA090043 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] In a press conference today Companero Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and interior minister, said the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] is not divided into factions. He also said subordinates must obey the orders of the officials of the Interior Ministry and the country's armed forces. Borge Martinez emphatically stated that the Nicaraguan people should understand well that all subordinates, that is, the companeros responsible for the garrisons in the departments, have the duty of following the orders issued by the officials of the Interior Ministry and the country's armed forces.

Companero Borge Martinez made these statements in reference to a specific case in Boaco Department where a small group of irresponsible counterrevolutionaries carried out actions to (?distort) Deputy Defense Minister Comdr Eden Pastora Gomez' order for the release of Mr Mauricio Martinez.

Here are Comdr Tomas Borge's statements during today's press conference with national and foreign newsmen:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] particularly regarding the principle of authority which should prevail in any country. There is the case of the release of Mr Mauricio Martinez in the city of Boaco which Comdr Eden Pastora ordered. It brought about the protest of an insignificant group of individuals in Boaco and the publication of an article in the newspaper BARRICADA which refers to Eden Pastora's order.

First of all, we want to state that when we were questioned about Comdr Eden Pastora's order we were completely unaware of the circumstances in which the order was given. We replied, however, that the commander's order must be obeyed. Since we have complete trust in Comdr Eden Pastora we did not even concern ourselves with the details of the order. It was not until we saw the article in BARRICADA and had reports that a group, allegedly members of the GPP [Prolonged People's War faction of the FSLN] were protesting the order issued by Commander Pastora that we learned the details of the case.

We want to point out two things regarding this case. First of all, an order issued by an official of the Interior Ministry or the armed forces to entities subordinate to them must be fulfilled. Second, all FSLN factions have disappeared in Nicaragua. As we said after the victory, those who are raising factional banners are counterrevolutionaries. Therefore, the attitude of these individuals, supposedly members of the GPP faction of the FSLN, is counterrevolutionary. Disobeying orders in a military organization is punishable. We want all companeros to know that the orders issued by the FSLN National Directorate to political entities must be obeyed, the orders issued by the Army Directorate must be obeyed and the orders issued by the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of the police and state security, must be obeyed. If this is not done, then we will enter into a period of anarchy where a small republic emerges in each department and town. There is only one republic here. There are central authorities who have sufficient power to enforce their orders. The orders of the Interior Ministry, both of the minister and the deputy ministers must be obeyed. Those who do not obey orders will be arrested, tried and sentenced.

Referring to the specific case of Mr Martinez, we want to state that we received a letter from the municipal government of Boaco in which it stated that the BARRICADA article on 30 December is false and groundless. [passage indistinct] we are going to ask for explanations from the delegate of the Interior Ministry because they gave him their communique and he did not forward it to us.

These individuals [words indistinct], these individuals who are inciting things there have occupied a radio station and this is also a crime. That station belongs to the state. I do not know if it belongs to the Sandinist system or if it belongs to the state. In either of the two cases, the law has been violated. There has been a lack of respect for our revolution. No one can do whatever he pleases here. We must begin to understand that we must establish order in our country. We have stopped being guerrillas and we are holding power. We must exercise that power. The companeros of BARRICADA were surprised by this letter signed by the Boaco municipal government stating that what BARRICADA published was false.

This man, Mauricio Espinoza [name as heard], was arrested on 4 August. Many people came to tell Comdr Jaime Weelock that despite the fact that this man had been a Somozist he had helped persons persecuted by Somozism. We not only have to see the visible facts but we have to be aware of the clandestine actions in favor of the Sandinists and the people. Of course, this does not justify the fact that an individual was a Somozist. His actions, however, were enough to convince Companero Jaime Weelock to ask the Interior Ministry, through comdr Eden Pastora, for the provisional release of this individual so that he could go home and the investigations could continue. This was done. Therefore, independent of the fact that the decision of a member of the FSLN National Directorate and the order issued by a member of the directorate, Companero Eden Pastora, was not correct, the order must be obeyed. If the orders issued by the Nicaraguan authorities are not carried out and each person makes his own decision, then no one is going to lead this country and each person is going to become a national leader. This is impossible here or anywhere in the world.

We also want to reiterate something here. There are ridiculous rumors which say that Comdr Eden Pastora is a representative of the bourgeois interests in the country. We want to reiterate here what we have emphatically said in other occasions. If there is one person who has our political and personal confidence, if there is a companero in this revolution who has our complete political trust, that is Comdr Eden Pastora. We said this on a previous occasion because there were some people who thought they could win over Eden Pastora. But Eden Pastora is completely loyal to this revolution. We might have doubts about others but we do not have the slightest doubt about Comdr Eden Pastora. He is a companero with a great heart. He is a noble and honest person. We think it is practically unnecessary to repeat this but we wanted to reiterate it here so that no one will try to stain the clean and pure name of Eden Pastora.

In Nicaragua we have armed forces organizations. They are our glorious Sandinist People's Army whose chief is Commander of the Revolution and Defense Minister Ortega. It is in charge of defending the country. It is in charge of the external defense of the country. It is training itself to be able to respond militarily to any attack. In the domestic area, we essentially have the state security bodies which are now under the responsibility of Companero [name indistinct] and the Sandinist police. They are authorized to arrest persons for common crimes or for counterrevolutionary activity. Only the Sandinist police and the state security can arrest people in Nicaragua. The army helps the police and state security for domestic [words indistinct] the same way that the police and state security help the army for the defense of the country. Their functions are interrelated. The main function of the state security is the prevention, arrest and (?repression) of the counterrevolutionaries. It works to prevent them from carrying out their counterrevolutionary activity. [end recording]

FURTHER COVERAGE ON ARRIVAL OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS

PA090253 Paris AFP in Spanish 0159 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 8 Jan (AFP)--The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today reported that 11 Soviet diplomats have arrived in Nicaragua to set up their embassy in Managua. The group is headed by Minister Counselor Aleksandr Simakov, whose assistant is Vitaliy Schubin.

The Foreign Ministry indicated that the Soviet advance group is part of a large staff that Moscow will assign to its embassy in Managua. Nicaragua has appointed Ricardo Wheelock as its ambassador to the Soviet Union.

The Foreign Ministry said that once the Soviet Embassy has been set up, it is expected that the Soviet Foreign Ministry will request Nicaragua's approval of the Soviet diplomat who will be appointed as ambassador here.

The Nicaraguan Government today announced the arrival of a Peruvian technical mission which will help develop mining and the exploration for hydrocarbons in Nicaragua. The six-member mission headed by Francisco Pachas will stay in Nicaragua for 6 months at the request of the government junta.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry also reported that only 121 persons are still in asylum at the foreign embassies in Managua. All of them are linked with the Somozist dictatorship. It announced that 865 Somozists who had taken asylum in the embassies were granted safe-conducts and sent into exile. The Foreign Ministry reported that the only high-ranking members of the former National Guard still in asylum at the embassies are Gen Miguel Blessin, member of the National Guard staff, and Gen Gregorio Pichardo, former immigration chief. They are in the Venezuelan and Salvadoran embassies, respectively.

BORGE CALLS COLOMBIAN NAVAL MANEUVERS THREAT TO OAS UNITY

PA090023 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Colombia should not break Latin America's anti-imperialist unity. We ask ourselves: Would not the Colombian military mobilization near our coasts break Latin American unity in the face of U.S. intervention? Nicaraguan Interior Minister Comdr Tomas Borge Martinez said this today in his Managua office. In this way Borge replied to newsmen's questions on international news agencies' reports about Colombian naval incursions in the Atlantic near Nicaragua.

He said even if Nicaragua had frigates, a strong air force or thousands of soldiers, it would not think of carrying out maneuvers near the Colombian coasts.

The Colombian news media over the weekend reported that the Colombian incursions were routine patrols rather than for intimidation purposes.

Nicaragua and Colombia are involved in a dispute over some islands and keys in the Caribbean. Nicaraguan authorities have repeatedly indicated that those islands and keys are located on the country's continental shelf. The islands include San Andres and Providencia and the keys are Roncador, Serrana and Quitasueno.

Comdr Tomas Borge recalled that during the crucial phase of the Nicaraguan people's struggle against the Somoza regime, the Latin American countries achieved an historic unity at the OAS in the face of U.S. plans for armed intervention in Nicaragua. Borge said Colombia, as a member of the Andean Pact, was among the countries which supported unity. Now we ask ourselves whether the incursions are linked with maneuvers seeking to destroy Latin American unity? We hope that no one will let himself be used for these attempts to break the unity of the Andean Pact countries, Tomas Borge indicated.

Commander Borge said in its territorial sea, Nicaragua has keys and not corns [play on Spanish words cayos and callos] which might hurt Colombia. He added to (?avoid) an international conflict with Colombia, Nicaragua will resort to international organizations instead of arms which, he said, would be ridiculous. He stressed, however, that the Nicaraguan revolution was carried out precisely to defend territorial integrity and sovereignty. We will not permit the invasion of Nicaragua. As is well known, the Nicaraguan people can successfully defend themselves, he said.

He said by extending its territorial sea limit to 250 miles, Nicaragua has (?upheld) its sovereignty. Borge indicated he considered Colombia's attitude inexplicable. He added that there might also be forces which are trying to undermine relations between Nicaragua and the Andean Pact countries.

CUBA HONORED AT CELEBRATION OF REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

FL042147 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2120 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The 21st anniversary of the Cuban revolution was commemorated in Managua with a politico-cultural event organized by the workers of Nicaragua's Interior Ministry. Comdr Tomas Borge, minister of the interior and member of the Sandinist Front National Directorate, and Carlos Lugo, counselor of the Cuban Embassy, made speeches at the ceremony.

Comdr Tomas Borge noted the great aid being offered by Cuba to the Nicaraguan people despite the fact that it is poor economically. He stated that the most important teaching Cuba gives his fatherland is that its revolution is nobody's copy and was made according to its traditions and objective and subjective conditions.

Borge Speech at Ceremony

PA051541 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2103 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Its international solidarity with peoples who struggle or defeat oppression and exploitation is the only characteristic the Nicaraguan revolution will copy from the Cuban one, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez commented last night. The Sandinist leader spoke at a ceremony held to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Cuban revolution over which Commander Fidel Castro Ruz presides.

Borge insisted that the National Reconstruction Government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front's Directorate will make a Nicaraguan revolution. "We have not gone to Cuba to take a picture so we can copy it here, but we do have to learn the lesson given us by the Cuban revolution through its solidarity and fraternity with the Nicaraguan people," the Sandinist leader affirmed. He added that this people must express its solidarity with the other Latin American peoples struggling against or defeating imperialism or trying to shake off the yoke of foreign masters. "That is what we must learn from our Cuban brothers who, despite their limitations and their poverty, have been generous with our people. Tomorrow, if necessary, we may have to take the food out of our mouths to express our solidarity with our other Latin American brothers with the same affection, firmness and solidarity as the Cubans have done," the minister stressed.

According to Borge Martinez, it was timely to recall that the other Latin American peoples must make their revolution based on their own problems and needs, but warned that they must take into account the experiences of other revolutions if mistakes are to be avoided. The Nicaraguan minister reiterated that "for us, international solidarity constitutes a prior moral obligation and here we must develop it through a firm political conscience."

At the ceremony in honor of the Cuban revolution, Deputy Interior Minister Jose Valdivia reviewed Cuba's struggle since the days of Marti as well as the imperialists' efforts to prevent or tamper with the revolution [words indistinct] by Fidel Castro. According to him, it was in Cuba "where, as an example to the world, the revolutionary transformations that we Nicaraguans have learned materialized."

He referred to the Cuban revolution's achievements in the areas of defense, health, education, agrarian reform and the economy and spoke about its "internationalist" workers, "who have taken their solidarity to the struggling peoples of Angola, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Algeria, Yemen and Nicaragua."

Carlos Lugo, representative of the Cuban Embassy in Nicaragua, expressed thanks for the words of praise for his country's revolution and commented that now it is Nicaragua which has surprised the world by overthrowing a long tyranny in a victory that has made news all over the world. The Cuban diplomat concluded by predicting that the Nicaraguan revolutionary process will achieve its objectives on behalf of all its people.

PCF'S MARCHAIS VISITS, CALLS FOR RENEWED RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

LD071335 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 28 Dec 79 p 6 LD

[Jean Ortiz dispatch: "Georges Marchais in Managua"]

[Text] Managua, 27 December--Georges Marchais, PCF secretary general, and Maxime Gremetz, Politburo member, arrived on Thursday in Managua, where they were received by the leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

The two PCF leaders will meet the leaders of the FSLN and familiarize themselves with the country's realities and concrete needs after 40 years of a dictatorship carried at arms' length until the last moment by American imperialism.

The PCF has always sided with the courageous Nicaraguan people, displaying its material and political solidarity from the beginning of the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship.

It is worth recalling moreover the fight waged by our party after the people's victory of 19 July to reestablish normal economic and trade relations between France and Nicaragua and to get a French ambassador appointed to Nicaragua.

Today, with the visit of Georges Marchais and Maxime Gremetz, the PCF reaffirms and increases its solidarity with the new Nicaragua.

This is the first time that one of the foremost leaders of a major Western European political party has paid an official visit to Nicaragua.

Today the Nicaraguan people are working against unprecedented difficulties to rebuild a country devastated by the dictatorship and a war by a veritable army of occupation against a whole people.

International aid for Nicaragua, of which so much has been spoken, including by France, is for the moment very meager. Solidarity with democratic Nicaragua must be made to match its needs.

On arrival at the airport Georges Marchais made the following declaration: "On arriving for the first time on Nicaraguan soil, which has suffered and struggled so much, I am unable to conceal my emotion. The French people followed day by day the heroic struggle of a whole nation--to the point of sacrificing its existence--to liberate itself from one of the most cruel and bloody dictatorships of modern times, a dictatorship which did not hesitate to resort to genocide against its own people and which sought to bury it beneath a mound of ruins.

"We realize the importance of the broad national unity that you have created around the FSLN on the basis of common aims--yesterday to isolate and combat dictatorship, today to rebuild your country and bring about your democratic objectives.

"The PCF and the French workers, true to their traditions, have not been sparing in their active solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's struggle against the Somoza dynasty. The PCF secretary general's presence in Nicaragua today is profoundly significant in its reaffirmation of this solidarity and in the opportunity it gives for discussions with the leaders of the FSLN. These conversations will permit us a better understanding of your country's situation and of its needs at the present stage. This is above all the mark of our desire to strengthen further our solidarity with the new Nicaragua at the very moment when you are already engaged in the difficult task of rebuilding a ruined country and assuring your people well-being, happiness and liberty so dearly won."

Conference With Sandinist Leaders

LD071337 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 29 Dec 79 p 4 LD

[Jean Ortiz dispatch: "Marchais in Managua: Meeting With Nicaraguan Leaders"]

[Excerpt] Managua, 28 December--The first day of the official visit of Georges Marchais and Maxime Gremetz to Nicaragua was marked by the meeting with the nine members of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

During the conversation with the Sandinist leaders Georges Marchais recalled the principles underlying PCF solidarity with all peoples in the struggle for national independence, social progress and democracy; a solidarity in respect of the objectives which each people's sovereignty determines.

The PCF secretary general underlined the importance of the struggle against hunger, poverty and underdevelopment in the world while the multinationals amass enormous profits to the detr[illegible] of the people's interests. The Nicaraguan people must benefit from the broadest and most active solidarity. Their victory represents the consolidation of international strength combining for national liberation and peace. It confirms once more that a discredited regime supported at arm's length by the most powerful of the imperialist countries cannot resist a people which has found the ways and means necessary to overcome it. Clearly, Marchais declared, imperialism can no longer have it's own way, including in Latin America.

The Sandinist leaders underlined the importance they attach to the solidarity of the French communists, to the strengthening of relations between the PCF and the FSLN and between the French working class and the Nicaraguan people. They reaffirmed their desire to pursue a specific national course and to build a new Nicaragua, while taking into account the traditions, history and realities of their country.

The FSLN leadership explained to Marchais and Maxime Gremetz how the struggle against tyranny united the great majority of Nicaraguans of diverse social and philosophical backgrounds.

BORGE OUTLINES NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION PLANS

FL071842 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Cuban Embassy in Managua, capital of Nicaragua, has hosted a reception marking the anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution. The Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, government junta, ministers and officials as well as representatives of Nicaraguan culture, sports and mass organizations, diplomats accredited to Managua, journalists and officials of the Cuban Embassy and Education Ministry, public health and fisheries--areas in which Cuba is providing assistance to the Nicaraguan people--attended the reception.

The Nicaraguan leaders conveyed greetings to the people of Cuba and their president, Fidel Castro, through Cuban Ambassador to Nicaragua Julian Lopez, on the occasion of the anniversary of the glorious day of liberation.

It also was reported in Managua that Tomas Borge, member of the Sandinist Front National Directorate and minister of interior, in talks with a group of Soviet journalists referred to achievements and tasks of the Nicaraguan revolution. He explained that in Nicaragua a phase of radical transformations has begun in the country's political, social and economic life to create a new political, military and administrative apparatus, including the people's army and revolutionary government organs.

The Nicaraguan interior minister said implementation of the plan to reactivate the national economy already has begun and that a vast campaign is under way to eradicate illiteracy. Tomas Borge stressed that steps also are being taken aimed at changing the Sandinist Front to a political party that responds to the new situation in the country and destined to lead the process of subsequent development of the revolution.

RUIZ SPEAKS ON 1980 ECONOMIC INVESTMENT PLANS

PA050226 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0041 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan revolutionary government's economic reactivation plan for 1980 involves government investment amounting to $3.74 billion cordobas ($374 million) and private enterprise investment amounting to 470 million cordobas ($47 million).

The plan's salient points were revealed on a radio and television network by Henry Ruiz, minister of planning and member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate.

It is an emergency scheme and is considered here to be the first step toward a planned national economy involving both the public and private business sectors. Its goal is to recover the nation's economic index in 1978.

It was drafted bearing in mind "the heritage left by the previous regime of Gen Anastasio Somoza: A chaotic economy, exploitation, poverty and underdevelopment, all characteristic of a dependent capitalist system and imperialist control over the nation."

The document also takes into consideration the devastation caused by the 1979 liberation war, both in the productive apparatus and inventories and the infrastructure of the capital and the other important cities of the nation. Also mentioned are the sacking and flight of capital and technicians and the uncertainty and fear of broad sectors of the private business sector.

"This situation," cautioned Commander Ruiz, "will be overcome in the same measure as other sectors meet and surpass their goals and produce foreign exchange surpluses."

The minister said that within the investments program, financing will be covered by foreign credit, but the government must contribute matching funds, estimated at 300 million cordobas ($30 million), which will be obtained from government budget funds.

The same amount must be appropriated to cover foreign debt services. A deficit of approximately 900 million cordobas ($90 million) by the end of the year is foreseen in the economic reactivation plan. Ruiz pointed out that this will necessitate maximum austerity on the part of the people and the government, a battle against bureaucracy and an open war on inflation, which will need the participation and cooperation of all revolutionary forces "in order to reactivate production and advance toward the new economy, which calls for unity and drive, a unitarian alliance that is typical of the revolution."

On exports, the government plan estimates for the year that is beginning an amount between $524 and $565 million, which reflects a reduction compared to the $598 million in 1978 and is justified by the drop in cotton production on account of last year's rebellion. In this regard, the plan calls for planting a minimum of 170,000 manzanas, with 15 percent of this quantity under the control of the government through the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute.

The revolution has created incentives for reactivating all arable land by cutting back rent to 300 cordobas ($30) per manzana, reducing the cost of farming supplies and authorizing the occupation of all properties whose owners refuse to sow as a sign of dissatisfaction or to boycott the "process."

In the field of exportable farming production, the government expects to generate some 90,000 jobs and has outlined alternate and temporary programs to counter cyclical unemployment.

The minister of planning said that the government has set a goal of "real growth of 17 percent with regard to the year that ended, which would represent 85 percent of the gross value of the industrial production of 1978."

With regard to exporting goods to Central America, Nicaraguan industry has set the goal of reaching the level of $268 million, including farming products, creating 10,000 new jobs. This sector includes an increase in the production of medicine, popular clothing, construction material and other items.

In the part that refers to the supply of consumer goods, the plan also contains three special programs for basic grains, the importation of nonluxury consumer goods and another on the price of basic foods for consumers. Total imports for this period are estimated at $648 million, including consumer goods, fuel and lubricants, capital goods and intermediary goods.

One of the achievements included in the economic reactivation plan is a reduction of the present inflation rate of 60 percent to only 19 percent.

Likewise, there should be a 22-percent growth in the gross national product, although the level will be 9 percent below the gross national product of 1978.

Minister Henry Ruiz pointed out that with these plans, the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction expects to achieve the defense and consolidation of the Sandinist revolution and make the operative structure of the state more dynamic, while at the same time strengthening the process of democratization.

BORGE AUTHORIZES PRIVATE POSSESSION OF MILITARY WEAPONS

PA082300 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Comdr Tomas Borge Martinez today said that except for well-known Somozists, any person in Nicaragua can possess weapons, including military weapons, but they must be under state control. The minister made the statement in his Managua office while commenting about the disturbing increase in crime in Nicaragua.

Borge Martinez said police authorities have been improving their organization and training to face common criminal activities. He admitted, however, that there has been a recent increase in thefts and all types of crime. In view of this situation, the Interior Ministry has decided to permit the carrying of arms by private individuals, including the granting of permits for carrying military weapons even to those who are not members of the army. This does not mean that we are going to give permits for 75 millimeter cannons but permits will be granted for carbines, Galil rifles, M-16's and so on, Borge said. He stressed, however, that regardless of the source of the weapons, they must all be registered and permits must be obtained for carrying them so the state will have control over that weapon.

The minister said as a result of the insurrection many people armed themselves and have so far refused to turn over military weapons. He added that because of this, the possession of those weapons will be legalized. This does not mean, he added, that we are going to permit well-known Somozists to carry military weapons.

SHORTAGES OF GRAINS, SALT EVIDENT IN URBAN AREAS

PA041703 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2308 GMT 3 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Lines some 400 meters long of persons wanting to buy basic grains in Managua today were indicative of the critical shortage of those essential products for the Nicaraguan people's diet. The lines to buy rice and beans existed throughout the day in front of the huge silos of the Nicaraguan Basic Foods Enterprise (ENABAS) in the northern outskirts of Managua.

The government is making every effort to purchase the basic grains in the Central American markets and outside the region. Negotiations have begun to import corn from the United States, while rice and beans are being imported from Mexico and Central America.

The lack of basic grains is one of the effects of the past war. Farmers were unable to plant in the usual areas precisely when the country had one of the best winters in the past few years.

It has also been reported that most of the grain reserves are being sent to the areas where peasants are picking coffee and harvesting other products. This has intensified the shortage of grains in the urban markets.

There is also a shortage of salt in the markets. This product is being imported from Honduras. However, official spokesmen today reported that salt production has already been begun by small salt producers in western Nicaragua. It is estimated that production by two large salt-producing companies confiscated from the Somoza family will begin within 15 days. The supply of salt should become stabilized and the price should drop substantially when they begin operating.

A pound of salt costs four cordobas ($.40) but there are plans to fix the salt price to .50 cordoba in the next few days.

CASTRO PROPOSED MEXICO'S APPOINTMENT TO UN POST

PA090328 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0003 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Havana, 8 Jan (EFE)--Fidel Castro personally negotiated with Mexican officials the substitution of this country for Cuba in the elections to fill the UN Security Council seat, diplomatic sources confirmed to EFE today. According to these sources, the Cuban leader went to the residence of Mexican ambassador to Cuba, Ernesto Madero, on the afternoon of 31 December. After an interview lasting over 2 hours, Mexican officials were verbally notified that Cuba would see with satisfaction Mexico's election to the UN post.

During the meeting the Cuban president informed Madero of Mexico's option concerning the Security Council and that Cuba would seek the post to be left vacant by Jamaica at the end of this year. Castro told the Mexican ambassador that Cuba was willing to delay seeking a Security Council seat until Jamaica vacates the seat it now holds.

Several hours after this talk, Ernesto Madero went to Mexico City where he informed his country's government of the proposal presented by the Cuban president.

Some days later after consulting with several Latin American countries, it was officially announced that Mexico would be a substitute for Cuba in the elections, with Colombia's approval. In fact it was noted in diplomatic circles that there had merely been an exchange of options since Mexico would probably have been elected a Security Council member during the coming regular assembly. Jamaica will vacate the post on 31 December of this year.

Nevertheless, it seems that Mexican officials have reasserted to the Havana government that Cuba will have, as it has had, their support in replacing Jamaica, although nothing has been said about Colombia's stand on the next occasion.

The same sources said that Cuban foreign policy had been skillfully conducted on this occasion since the Afghanistan affair could have affected it negatively regarding the Security Council seat.

U.S. Cannot 'Impose' Views

FL081120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli has declared that it has been shown that the times when the United States could impose its views on the United Nations are gone forever.

In exclusive statements to PRENSA LATINA shortly after the conclusion of the UN General Assembly election of the Latin American member of the Security Council, Malmierca referred to U.S. maneuvers to block the election process. The Cuban foreign minister also asserted that the intent of the U.S. Government and some of its allies to impose on the General Assembly the election of a candidate which did not have and never had throughout more than 150 ballots the support of the majority of the UN delegations was demonstrated in this long struggle.

Cuba, with the support of the great majority of member countries, has defended the right of all states to hold elective positions in the United Nations, specifically, at the Security Council, Malmierca stressed.

HOLGUIN WORKERS PLEDGE FULFILLMENT OF PLANS

FL080209 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The workers of Holguin will fulfill the current harvest's sugar production plan in honor of the second party congress with the same effort with which they achieved fulfillment of the 1979 nickel production plan, Miguel Cano Blanco, member of the PCC Central Committee and first party secretary in that province, stated in his closing remarks at a meeting celebrating the fulfillment of the Comdr Rena Ramos Latour nickel industry's annual plan. The factory workers sent a letter to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro reporting the productive success that was achieved and pledging to fulfill the current year's plan.

PINAR DEL RIO MEETING EXAMINES CONDITION OF CANEFIELDS

FL080054 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The present status of the irrigation, drainage and road projects of the 30 November sugar mill's canefields was examined during a meeting held in San Cristobal, Pinar del Rio Province. The meeting was chaired by PCC Central Committee members Diocles Torralba, vice president of the councils of State and Ministers and Rafael Francia Mestre, minister of agriculture.

The construction workers of the 30 November sugar mill, which is 90.6 percent complete, have ratified their decision to finish the mill by 28 January in honor of the 127th anniversary of the birthday of national hero Jose Marti.

BRIEFS

SCIENCE ACADEMY ANNUAL REVIEW--Jose R. Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, has made the closing remarks at the annual review meeting of the Cuban Academy of Sciences which was presided over by Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat. Speaking in the Camilo Cienfuegos auditorium at the Academy of Sciences, Fernandez referred to the need for enough cadres trained in every area of management of the organizations' structure. And he reported that they are studying the adoption of a special juridical regime to regulate the entrance and tenure of academy professionals based on the highest requirements as regards attitudes, production and revolutionary conditions. Also presiding at this event were Jose Felipe Carneado, head of the PCC Central Committee Department of Science, Culture and Education, and Zoilo Marinello, president of the State Committee for Science and Technology. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jan 80 FL]

EDUCATION PLANS--The Education Ministry is planning to recruit more than 8,000 pre-university students during the present school year for the Manuel Ascunce Domenech teacher training detachment. It also was announced at a press conference held in the Education Ministry that the recruitment plan gives priority to specialization in mathematics, chemistry, physics and labor education. Regarding a plan for recruitment of primary school teachers, it was announced that it calls for getting 9,850 students as well as 440 positions for librarians. The planned number of new admissions in the 1980-81 school year to specialties with additional requirements is approximately 24,000 with priority given to teacher training schools and careers in the military, public health, construction and iron and steel industry. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Jan 80 FL]

JAMAICA

EDWARD SEAGA CALLS 1980 YEAR OF DECISION

FL041655 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 1 Jan 80 pp 1, 13 FL

[Text] This year "must be a year of decision to grapple with the underlying problem of diminishing motivation among Jamaicans, to restore the pride of achievement and the hope for success," opposition leader Edward Seaga, says in his New Year's message.

"It must be a time to return to those principles of initiative, enterprise and the personal values which enshrine freedom, which have served to motivate Jamaicans in the past to achieve the highest standard of living ever attained in our history."

"The new year is usually a period of bright hopes with fervent resolutions to overcome the problems of the past. This year begins with economic prospects so grim in outlook that hopes are likely to be dashed from the beginning. Indeed, the year is likely to begin with dislocations that would dissolve any optimism."

Frustration

"In this climate it would be easy for us as a people to dissolve in angry frustration as well. If we do, the year could be one of unprecedented protests and bitterness which will set a disruptive tone for some time to come. To avoid this, 1980 must be a year of decision. For too long problems which are the root causes of discontent have been sidestepped and avoided. The economy has been battered into a frayed and tattered remnant of what it used to be. And we have been led to believe that this is so because of external pressures such as the price of oil. The contribution of dramatic increases in the price of oil as an external influence is not to be under-estimated. But it is equally wrong not to acknowledge that there is a bigger component yet which is entirely of domestic origin.

"No man works without motivation; no economy survives without work; therefore, no economy survives without motivation of the people. To Jamaicans, in the main part, motivation means the opportunity to achieve better standards of living for themselves and particularly their families, not greater power for the state. A country which cannot meet the aspirations of its people for a better quality of life, or hold out the hope that by gradual improvement children will see these benefits even if parents won't, loses the support of its people."

Dark Tunnel

"To them there is no light in the dark tunnel of hardship, no reason to strive, save only just to survive. If there is no vision of salvation what is there to impel a man to work harder every year, if by doing so all he can hope for is to reduce the extent of the continuing slide down hill? This must be a year of decision to grapple with the underlying problem of diminishing motivation among Jamaicans, to restore the pride of achievement and the hope for success. It must be a time to reject those allegiances which are based on the wrong interpretation of the Jamaican psyche which sees the individual as a tool of the state for the betterment of the state and not as an instrument to advance his own welfare and that of his family."

Personal Values

"It must be a time to return to those principles of initiative, enterprise, and the personal values which enshrine freedom, which have served to motivate Jamaicans in the past to achieve the highest standard of living ever attained in our history."

"This is the only vision that can restore vitality to the nation, the only cause for which people will struggle. Any other concept is alien to our way of life. Nineteen eighty must be the year in which we commit ourselves to begin the hard, up-hill climb to restore prosperity, to seek out once again the road to Jerusalem, and not allow ourselves any longer to be marooned on the banks of the Red Sea! May I wish you all a happy New Year!"

JUF CRITICIZES SOVIET ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN

FL071430 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Jan 80 p 10 FL

[Text] The Jamaica United Front has described as a blatant breach of the United Nation's Charter for the maintenance of peace and stability in the world, the Soviet Union's attitude towards Afghanistan.

In a news release issued on December 28, the front said that "this super power action" was neo-colonialist. It said it was not satisfied that both the Soviet Union and the United States of America were prepared to have their smaller neighbours existing where they were not embracing their (the big powers') philosophies to the letter.

The JUF said that protest should be made officially to the Soviet ambassador in Jamaica for the recent loss of lives in Afghanistan.

It said that recent Soviet action in the Caribbean was similar to those in her neighbouring countries, the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe.

The front called on the Jamaican Government and the opposition to condemn the Soviet Union for its action in Afghanistan.

ST LUCIA

YOUTHS SENT TO GRENADA FOR MILITARY TRAINING

FL071440 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Jan 80 p 10 FL

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Wednesday, (CANA)--Deputy Prime Minister George Odlum Sunday night admitted publicly for the first time that St. Lucian youths had been recruited for military training in Grenada.

After several denials and statements to the effect that he had no such information about the allegations which were widespread here, Prime Minister Allan Louisy last week told the nation that the reports were indeed factual.

He said Mr. Odlum had informed him of his sending two youths to Grenada to be trained as his bodyguards, but he (Louisy) had discovered later that the numbe. was much higher.

Mr. Odlum Sunday night denied that he had told the prime minister only two youths had been recruited. He said he had informed Mr. Louisy the figure was 12.

Two months ago, opposition leader John Compton raised the issue in the House of Assembly. Mr. Louisy said then that the government had embarked on no such programme. Mr. Compton had earlier claimed to be in possession of the names, passport numbers and other information relating to the alleged recruits.

Mr. Odlum said Sunday night that after the July 2 general elections which his Labour Party won, he had been worried about his security and safety.

He contacted Grenada and it was arranged that he would send "one or two" youths to undergo training to serve as his personal bodyguards.

He said he had discussed the matter with other party members some of whom had also expressed an interest in having certain party people trained as their own bodyguards, because of doubt over the allegiance of certain policemen.

He added: "Unfortunately by the time it got around in our party circles, more than two wanted to go. We ended up with a party of 12 who would come back and serve as bodyguards for individual members of the party.

"It was not a government decision. It was not a party decision. It was a decision of government members who wanted to protect themselves."

Mr. Odlum added that when 12 recruits arrived in Grenada, it was to the utmost embarrassment of the Grenada Government, since the agreement had been for only two.

He said that when statements started appearing in the press raising the issue he realised he had made a mistake in not telling the prime minister.

"The reasons I didn't tell him, I wouldn't care to elaborate on at this moment", Mr. Odlum said, but he added that when the prime minister said he didn't know about the matter, he really had not known.

But he insisted he told Mr. Louisy it was 12 youths who had gone to Grenada. Mr. Odlum said the recruits were now back in St. Lucia "and are available if ever they are needed in situations."

He said he had made approaches to the prime minister and the Cabinet about the possibility of having the recruits absorbed into the police force, but this proposal had met resistance from certain high officials in the force.

He added: "These men are still around and available. I hope they will become part of the St. Lucia police force and at least we will have people there that our regime can regard as being dependable in time of crisis."

But Mr. Odlum emphasised that no attempts should be made to make the people feel there was any chance of a coup in St. Lucia. He said in recent months there had been many attempts to make St. Lucians uneasy and uncertain and there had been talk of a coup involving the leadership issue.

"It is nonsensical to suggest that anybody in the government now would attempt a coup at this time when we are in government", the deputy said.

Mr. Odlum claimed that he was being followed around day and night by police spies. He also charged that he had tried in vain to get certain files out of the police force.

BRIEFS

ST. LUCIA-FRG RELATIONS--It has been officially announced in Bonn that the Federal Republic of Germany and St Lucia today agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level. A communique of the FRG Foreign Ministry notes that the two governments have expressed their desire to expand and intensify ties of friendship between the peoples of the two countries and to maintain beneficial cooperation. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1512 GMT 8 Jan 80 FL]

CUBAN DOCTORS ARRIVE FOR 2-YEAR ASSIGNMENT

FL032030 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 30 Dec 79 p 1 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana Dec 29 (CANA)--A batch of 16 Cuban doctors has arrived in Guyana for a two-year attachment to the depleted health services.

This is the fourth batch of medical personnel to come from Cuba under a cooperation agreement between the two countries. The first group arrived in 1976.

Others are to come shortly, Cuban sources said.

An outgoing team of 22 will be leaving by February by which time the newcomers would have settled in.

Head of the outgoing group, Olivero Agramonte, said they have treated about 28,000 dental cases, 87,000 general health cases and 23,861 other cases.

In the new team are two internal physicians, four general physicians, one pediatrician, five dentists, one radiologist, one radiotherapist, and one anaesthetist. Head of the team is surgeon Rafael Salazar.

GOVERNMENT LEADERS ATTEND CUBAN EMBASSY RECEPTION

PA061703 Paris AFP in Spanish 1634 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 5 Jan (AFP)--President Arthur Chung and Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson yesterday evening attended the reception offered by Cuban Ambassador to Guyana Ivan Cesar Martinez in commemoration of Cuba's national holiday. Approximately 400 guests toasted the government of Fidel Castro and that of Guyana together with Forbes Burnham, leader of the People's National Congress and prime minister. Many foreign diplomats, including the ambassadors and high commissioners of the Soviet Union, Surinam, Jamaica, Venezuela, Great Britain and Canada were also present. Cuba and Guyana established diplomatic relations in December.

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES GOALS FOR 1980

FL071435 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Jan 80 p 3 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Wednesday, (CANA)--Higher personal income tax allowances, better pay for skilled workers, relief to those at the bottom, coupled with tax free incentive schemes are the centrepieces of an attractive package announced by Prime Minister Forbes Burnham as the New Year gift from his government to the country's workers.

But at the same time he urged workers to step up production and productivity--a constant theme of his government in 1979.

Mr. Burnham also announced that prices of essential and non-essential goods are to be brought down, there is to be a minor reorganisation of the Cabinet and greater emphasis on food for what he anticipated would be the "hungry eighties" of the world.

Mr. Burnham said the republic would also at least have the completed details of a new socialist constitution which has been in draft since the second half of 1978.

However, he left open the possibility that the draft would be taken to Parliament for approval when the country celebrates its tenth republic anniversary February 23, next, nor did he give any clue as to when general elections--deferred since July 1978--will take place.

Mr. Burnham however told his countrymen that the new year would require production of 335,000 tons of sugar, 200,000 tons of rice, 800,000 tons of calcine and 900,000 tons of alumina or "our economy will be in shambles."

(Those targets are all higher than the actual output in 1979, the year which was affected by both adverse weather conditions and strikes).

He added that the country would have to export 30 per cent more in timber, 30 per cent more in pharmaceuticals, drugs and preserved fruits, and there were markets for 20 per cent more fish and shrimp--compared with 1978. He anticipated that edible oil imports would have to be cut by G $5 million by production of more of it locally.

Further, a new textile mill would come on stream in the new year as well as a new glass factory and they would save the country about G $5 million in hard currency. Mr. Burnham renewed his warning that Guyanese must either produce or perish. "Standards of living and levels of remuneration cannot appreciate out of non-existent resources. Bankruptcy is the alternative to Olympian performance", he urged.

He said that the "mere survival" of Guyana in the year now past, especially in view of the soaring cost of imported fuel, and "taking into account the slings and arrows of outrageous opposition within and without", itself "represents an accomplishment." "But we Guyanese must seek to excel rather than merely accomplish", he added. He predicted that the republic celebrations in February would be the most significant yet: "Let us strive to deserve it. May 1980 be a year of miraculous achievement."

The Guyanese prime minister announced that the 1980 budget will be presented in "weeks" (the last was unusually delayed to March), and it would provide for increases in the personal allowances for workers, wives and dependent relatives for the purpose of income tax. He said the decision to increase the allowances resulted from government acceptance of the validity of the case put forward by the Trades Union Congress [TUC].

Discussions with the TUC would take another month or two, but there would be "certain upward adjustment" of pay for skilled public sector workers, tax free incentive schemes tied to production, and "mechanisms aimed at bringing relief where the need is greater",--all effective from yesterday. He said mark ups on certain essential and semi-essential goods in the stores had concerned him deeply. The Cabinet directed that "a more intelligent and aggressive purchasing policy" be adopted this year to take advantage of lower prices in various markets, and coupled with bulk purchasing.

Prime Minister Burnham also announced that in keeping with large scale expansion of fisheries, the government Fisheries Department is to be reorganised shortly and separated from the Agriculture Ministry and made into an independent ministry. This will be aimed at facilitating more rapid development of the sector, he said. The agriculture ministry, headed by Mr. Gavin Kennard, will meanwhile take on the Forestry Department, now part of the Energy and Natural Resources Ministry, headed by Mr. Hubert Jack. Mr. Jack's ministry will become the Ministry of Energy and Mining.

ARGENTINA

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERNED OVER AFGHANISTAN, MIDDLE EAST

PY082318 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2220 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (NA)--A qualified spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said today that the Argentine Government is following events in Afghanistan with "deep concern," and that the tensions in the Middle East are "a great threat to the West and to world peace."

The spokesman said: "Considering that Argentina is a country where the principles of self-determination and nonintervention, among others, are the basic concepts of its foreign policy, the events in Afghanistan are observed with deep concern." He added: "Furthermore, if the increase of tension continues, a great threat to the West and to world peace can be seen. The spokesman also said: "The Foreign Ministry is continuously studying the situation in that Asian country, as well as the situation in the entire Middle East, through information received from its embassies abroad and from representatives in Buenos Aires of the countries directly involved."

The statement of the high official, who asked not to be identified, was made after it was learned that Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor held meetings today with the U.S. charge d'affaires (temporarily in charge of the embassy), Maxwell Chaplin, and the ambassadors of the Soviet Union, Pakistan and Greece, Sergey Striganov, Saad Tarique [as received] and Vasilios Vitsakis, respectively.

Washington Meeting Attendance Seen

PY090105 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0035 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (NA)--A reliable source said tonight that Argentina has decided to attend the meeting of grain-exporting countries called by the U.S. Government for next Friday in Washington, but this attendance does not mean a decision to support an eventual boycott of the Soviet Union for its invasion of Afghanistan. The Argentine decision was adopted tonight during a meeting held by Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz with the secretary of trade and international negotiations, Alejandro Estrada; the under secretary of international economic relations of the Foreign Ministry, Col Raul Cura; and the secretary of agriculture and livestock, Jorge Zorreguieta.

CHILE

COMMENTARY PREDICTS ARGENTINA WILL NOT BOYCOTT USSR

PY071544 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 7 Jan 80 PY

[Commentary by Rafael Kittsteiner]

[Excerpt] As you well know, the United States disclosed 48 hours ago the measures with which President Carter is combating the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. These measures are: The suspension of at least one flight of the Soviet airline to American territory, delays in opening two new U.S. consulate offices, a decrease in sales of U.S. cereal production, and a possible boycott by the United States of the forthcoming Olympic games to be held in Moscow.

Argentina, as a cereal producing and exporting country, has been invited by the United States to join this eventual boycott to punish the USSR for its invasion of Afghanistan. It is known that the U.S. Government formally extended an invitation to the Argentine Government to attend along with Canada, Australia, the EEC and of course the United States an emergency meeting of cereal-producing countries to decide whether to curtail the sales of cereals to the Soviet Union.

The Russians have been experiencing an almost permanent deficit in their annual cereal harvests, and the last one is no exception. They must, therefore, import their cereal supply: wheat, corn and especially rye. This is why the decision of this meeting of cereal-exporting countries may have a severe economic impact on the Soviet Union. But what is more important is that this is an argument that the Russians may eventually understand.

It seems unlikely, however, that Argentina will support this eventual boycott. Argentina is experiencing a very difficult domestic economic situation. It has a galloping annual inflation rate of over 150 percent; it is involved in a slow, hard and costly economic recovery process; and it, therefore, relies on all its export revenues. Moreover, Argentine-Soviet trade in 1979 totaled over $400 million. This has been an almost constant figure in Argentine-Soviet trade in the last 5 years, and the trade balance has almost invariably favored Argentina. One-half of this income, $200 million, is derived from Argentine cereal exports to the Soviet Union. Moreover, the Argentine Government has important technological agreements with the Soviet Union and the Soviet bloc in general. The most important of these is the supply of turbines to the Argentine-Uruguayan Salto Grande dam. Since there is a close economic tie between Argentina and the Soviet Union, it is very unlikely that Argentina will join this eventual boycott of cereal grains to the Soviet Union.

Furthermore, ladies and gentlemen, this close economic tie explains something which has always claimed our attention. The Soviet Union--or any of the Soviet bloc countries for that matter--has never requested the intervention in Argentina of any human rights international organization. This goes to show that when money transactions and deals are involved, human rights are put behind. Chile has no trade with the socialist bloc and must, therefore, bear the burden.

MEXICO

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS MEXICAN UN STANCE ON AFGHANISTAN, IRAN

PA081350 Paris AFP in Spanish 0051 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jan (AFP)--Mexico today assumed its new UN Security Council seat by making an appeal to the USSR to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, Foreign Relations Secretary Jorge Castaneda has announced here. The foreign secretary defined his country's stand after announcing that he would leave Monday afternoon to take over the new post and to participate in the expected vote.

Mexico was elected to the UN Security Council Monday morning for the term 1980-81 as a result of an agreement reached by the Latin American bloc of countries to solve the impasse created by the candidacies of Cuba and Colombia to that seat.

Mexico, according to Castaneda, will vote for the draft resolution by various nonpermanent members of the council and nonalined countries which calls on countries having foreign troops in Afghanistan to withdraw them, the foreign secretary stated.

The foreign secretary, however, did not indicate what Mexico's position would be regarding the problem of Iran, also included in the Security Council agenda. He noted that before adopting any position, the council must first learn of the report of the recent mission carried out in Iran by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. The Mexican Government, Castaneda indicated, will closely and carefully study what happens and will vote in keeping with its traditional policy on similar matters. The minister stated that Mexico will not make any specific proposal regarding the Iran issue and will limit itself to following a policy in line with its basic principles of self-determination of peoples and nonintervention.

In diplomatic circles of the Mexican capital it was recalled that the government of President Jose Lopez Portillo openly criticized from the beginning the occupation and holding of hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. This position, together with the position of Mexico in the case of Afghanistan, could, it was noted, allay U.S. fears following the sudden Mexican presence at the UN Security Council at a time when relations between the two countries are strained. Local political circles noted, however, that the circumstantial coincidences on specific affairs will not alter the marked independence which the Mexican Government maintains on international affairs.

The unexpected rise of Mexico to the Security Council, it is said, is further evidence of the increasing importance of Mexico in world affairs.

PERU

GOVERNMENT REESTABLISHES FULL CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES

PA052218 Paris AFP in Spanish 2128 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 5 Jan (AFP)--The Peruvian military government today reestablished full constitutional guarantees, facilitating the way for the electoral campaign for the upcoming May elections. However, some political parties are demanding that the Lima papers be returned to their original owners because, they claim, in this way the elections can be held with complete freedom of expression.

SURINAME

GENERAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 27 MARCH

FL291430 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 19 Dec 79 p 19 FL

[Text] Paramaribo--General elections will be held in Suriname on March 27, 1980. The date has been set by President Johan Ferrier to resolve a political deadlock between Prime Minister Henck Arron and the opposition. It will be the second poll in less than two years. The previous late last year gave Mr. Arron's coalition victory by 20 seats to 19. One of his MPs has since died. Efforts to swear-in a replacement have been deemed illegal by the opposition, which is boycotting Parliament. Nomination for the March poll should be completed by the second week of February.